



# **PSC NEWS**

## **Missouri Public Service Commission**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**JANUARY 31, 2006**

### **PSC APPROVES AGREEMENT REACHED IN EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY WATER RATE CASE**

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an agreement reached by the PSC Staff and The Empire District Electric Company which authorizes the company to increase water revenues by approximately \$469,100 a year. This rate adjustment takes effect for service rendered on and after February 4, 2006.

In a June 2005 filing, The Empire District Electric Company sought to increase water revenues by approximately \$522,800 a year. The company stated increased operating expenses and investing approximately \$1.4 million in improvements, upgrades and additional extensions to meet the growing needs of its customers as reasons for seeking the rate increase.

After the company's filing, the PSC Staff conducted a thorough audit of the books and records of The Empire District Electric Company. Based upon that audit, the PSC Staff stated an increase of approximately \$469,100 was warranted. The Empire District Electric Company agreed with the PSC Staff recommendation in a filing made with the Commission on November 30, 2005.

For a residential customer using approximately 6,000 gallons a month, water rates will increase from \$22.52 a month to \$30.62 a month.

The Empire District Electric Company serves approximately 4,580 water customers in the communities of Aurora, Marionville and Verona.

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Case No. WR-2006-0215